

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's further Office Action of April 7, 2008 issued with respect to the present RCE application, the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment of the claims and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendments

In the Amendments:

independent claim 1 is amended to clarify that the tamper detection line is arranged to pass directly over each bit of the non-volatile memory so as to obscure operation of the non-volatile memory. Support for this amendment can be found in paragraphs [8198]-[8223] of the present specification; and

dependent claims 2 and 3 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not add new matter to the present application.

Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections

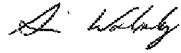
It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2 and 3 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by previously cited Gilbert in view of newly cited Bergum et al. (US 5,457,748) [it is noted that the Examiner mentions "Rager et al." in the rejection however the US patent number for Bergum is cited and all of the patent's passages cited by the Examiner clearly correspond to Bergum, accordingly the Applicant assumes that Bergum was meant), because neither of these cited references teaches or suggests arranging a tamper detection line to pass directly over each bit of non-volatile memory so as to obscure its operation, as is required by amended independent claim 1.

In particular, Bergum merely discloses tamper loop circuitry which is broken when physical access to the keyed devices is attempted (see col. 3, line 63-col. 4, line 19). Bergum does not teach or suggest that operation of the keyed devices can be obscured by arranging the tamper circuitry directly over each bit of the keyed devices, such that there is no motivation for one of ordinary skill in the art to arrange such tamper circuitry over each bit of the memory disclosed by Gilbert.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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